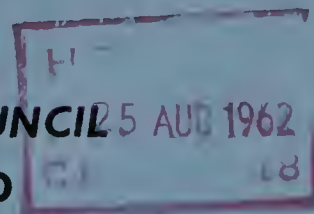


URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BEACONSFIELD



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1961

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEACONSFIELD

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1961

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEACONSFIELD

Chairman of the Council: Mrs.E.H.Diamond.
Vice-Chairman of the Council: Mr.O.S.Puckle.

Public Health Committee.

Chairman: Mr. J.L.Kirkconel.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. C.G.Mylrea

Councillors: Mr. R.C.Brown.
Mr. R.F.Forward.
Mr. H.A.H.Gray.
Mr. G.H.D.R.Greene.
Mr. D.R.Mullis.
Mr. A.E.Tilbury.
Mr. S.N.Whitehead.

Public Health Staff:

Medical Officer of Health: F. Seymour, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Amersham Rural District Council, Chesham Urban District Council, Deputy Divisional School Medical Officer, and Assistant County Medical Officer.

Public Health Inspector: Mr. P.J. Bunce, A.R.S.H.

The Public Health Inspector is also The Building Inspector, Petroleum Officer and Rodent Officer.

Tel: Beac: 1173.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Beaconsfield.

July 1962.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Beaconsfield Urban District Council.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report
on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's
District for 1961.

The health of the district, as reflected by
the vital statistics, has again been very satisfactory.

I would like to express my appreciation of
the help given by Mr. Bunce in the preparation of this
Report and throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

F. SEYMOUR,
Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION 1

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

1. General

Population (Estimated mid-year)	10,070
Area (acres) of District	....	....	5,314
Number of habitable houses(per Rate Book)	....	....	2,815
Rateable value of area	....	....	£194,251
Sum represented by 1d. rate	....	....	£810

2. Vital Statistics

(a) Live Births:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
--	--------------	----------------	--------------

Legitimate	....	....	87	79	166
Illegitimate	....	....	3	3	6
Total live births	....	....	90	82	172

Illegitimate live births per cent

of total live births	....	....	....	3.5
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	....	....	....	17.1
Comparability factor....	....	....	....	0.94
Corrected birth rate....	....	....	....	16.1

(b) Still-birth rate per 1,000 live & still-births 11.5

Total live and still-births	174
-----------------------------	------	------	-----

(c) Deaths:

Infant deaths ...	....	....	....	....	3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	....	....	....	....	17.4
Neo natal mortality rate per 1,000 live	....	....	....	....	17.4
	....	....	....	....	births
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	....	....	....	....	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population	....	....	....	....	10.5
Comparability Factor ...	....	....	....	....	1.15
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	....	....	....	....	12.1

The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differ from that of England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales and the corresponding corrected rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

As will be seen from the following table, the two principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation, which caused 53% of the deaths and cancer which caused 21% :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	1	2
2. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	1	5
3. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	-	2	2
4. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	-	1	1
5. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	3	9	12
6. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	-	-	-
7. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	9	13
8. Coronary disease, angina ...	12	9	21
9. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
10. Other heart disease ...	1	9	10
11. Other circulatory disease ...	7	2	9
12. Influenza ...	1	1	2
13. Pneumonia ...	1	3	4
14. Bronchitis ...	2	-	2
15. Diabetes ...	-	1	1
16. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
17. Congenital Malformations ...	2	1	3
18. Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	-	-	-
19. All other accidents ...	-	-	-
20. Suicides ...	-	2	2
21. Other defined and ill-defined disease ...	8	5	13
	48	58	106

COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM (Urban Districts only)

Population, Births and Mortality Rates for the Year 1961.

District	Population Census 1961	Registrar General Estimated Pop. mid 1961.	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Crude death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population.	Infant Mort- ality Rate per 1,000 Births.	Neo- natal Mort- ality Rate per 1,000 Births.	Matern- al Mort- ality per 1,000 Live & Still- Births.
URBAN								
Aylesbury	27,391	27,040	20.2 (545)	9.0 (244)	- (-)	11.0 (5)	9.2 (5)	- (-)
Beaconsfield	10,019	10,070	17.1 (172)	10.5 (106)	- (-)	17.4 (3)	17.4 (3)	- (-)
Bletchley	17,093	16,370	21.9 (369)	8.2 (138)	- (-)	21.7 (8)	16.3 (6)	- (-)
Buckingham	4,377	4,360	18.8 (82)	12.2 (53)	- (-)	24.4 (2)	24.4 (2)	- (-)
Chesham	16,236	16,550	27.4 (453)	9.7 (161)	- (-)	13.2 (6)	6.6 (3)	- (-)
Eton	3,901	5,430	13.8 (75)	6.4 (35)	- (-)	40.0 (3)	26.7 (2)	- (-)
High Wycombe	50,301	51,150	19.5 (997)	8.5 (435)	0.020 (1)	15.0 (15)	10.0 (10)	- (-)
Linslade	4,127	4,130	19.1 (79)	9.0 (37)	- (-)	50.6 (4)	50.6 (4)	- (-)
Marlow	8,704	8,740	20.0 (175)	10.1 (88)	0.114 (1)	17.1 (3)	17.1 (3)	- (-)
Newport Pagnell	4,722	4,670	15.2 (71)	18.4 (86)	- (-)	14.1 (1)	14.1 (1)	- (-)
Slough	80,503	80,690	19.8 (1,597)	7.9 (639)	0.074 (6)	23.8 (38)	18.2 (29)	0.62 (1)
Wolverton	13,116	13,040	13.8 (180)	14.6 (191)	- (-)	11.1 (2)	5.6 (1)	- (-)
Total Urban	240,990	242,740	19.8 (4,795)	9.1 (2,213)	0.033 (8)	19.0 (91)	14.4 (69)	0.21 (1)
Total County	486,183	491,400	18.6 (9,153)	9.4 (4,603)	0.035 (17)	18.1 (165)	14.0 (128)	0.11 (1)
England & Wales			17.4	12.0	0.072	21.4	15.5	0.33

NOTE: In view of the small numbers on which some of the rates quoted are based, the actual numbers are given in parentheses for the purpose of clearer comparison.

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Hospital Services

Beaconsfield is just within the area of the Windsor Group Management Committee of the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The Council has one member serving on the Windsor Group Hospital Management Committee and the House Committee of the Taplow Hospital.

Hospitals available for the District in the Windsor Group Management Committee Area:-

Tuberculosis	Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common.
General	King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, Maidenhead Hospital: Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Taplow, Bucks: Upton Hospital Slough, and Iver, Denham and Langley Cottage Hospital, Iver, Bucks.
Infectious Diseases	Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.
Maternity	Canadian Red Cross Hospital; Collinswood Maternity, Upton Maternity and Princess Christian Maternity Hospitals.
Mental Deficiency Hospitals	Church Hill House, Easthampstead, Bracknell, Berks; Clarefield Court, nr. Maidenhead, and Binfield Park, Binfield, Berks.
Mental Hospital	St. Bernards Hospital, Southall, Middx.
Psychiatric Out-patient sessions	King Edward VII Hospital, Upton Hospital and Maidenhead Hospital.

The boundaries of the district flank those of the adjoining Oxford Hospital Region, and many patients are referred to hospitals in that area.

2. Laboratory services

Bacteriological laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Oxford and Luton.

Samples of water and sewage effluent for chemical analysis are sent to the Public Analyst, Southwark Borough Council.

3. Nursing in the Home

The following Nurse Midwives practised in the town during the year as follows:-

Miss M.E. Barton S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
Miss M.R. Taylor S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Their address is: Nurses' Home, Candlemas Mead, Beaconsfield
Telephone: Beaconsfield 954.

4. Child Welfare Centres

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>M.O. attends.</u>
(a) Beaconsfield	The Old Rectory	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m. each month	Each session.
(b) Holtspur	St.Thomas' Church Hall.	1st & 3rd Tues. 2 p.m. Each month.	3rd Tues. each month

5. Ambulance Service.

This service is provided by the County Council. The Beaconsfield area is covered by the High Wycombe Station, West End Street, High Wycombe (Telephone number: High Wycombe 1871).

SECTION III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948/51

Section 47.

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place. It has not been necessary to take any action under this section during the year.

Section 50.

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made. Action had to be taken in one such case during the year.

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Apart from an epidemic of measles, the district was comparatively free from notifiable infectious disease during the year.

The one case of food poisoning notified was in a child who was found to be suffering from an infection with Salmonella Typhi-murium. Several of the contacts were found to be carriers. The general practitioners were informed of the case but no other cases were discovered.

Diseases.	Number of Cases.	
	1961	1960
Measles	203	24
Puerperal Fever	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	6
Whooping Cough	5	-
Tuberculosis	1	-
Acute Pneumonia	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	1
Food Poisoning	1	-

Immunisation and Vaccination.

(a) Smallpox Vaccination.

Approximately 75% of children under the age of one were vaccinated against smallpox during the year. This compares favourably with the figures for 1960 (67%) and no doubt following the unfortunate occurrence of cases of smallpox in the country at the beginning of this year, the figures for 1962 will show a further increase.

(b) Whooping Cough, Diphtheria & Tetanus Immunisation

Due to a change in the analysis of the returns, it is not possible to give the percentage of children immunised against these diseases during 1961. However, it should be possible to give a more accurate figure next year, than has been possible in the past. The actual numbers of children immunised, are shown below.

Year of Birth	1961	1960	1959
Number Immunised against Whooping Cough	42	88	8
Number Immunised against Diphtheria	26	86	8
Number Immunised against Tetanus	26	61	14.

(c) Poliomyelitis

No separate figures for poliomyelitis vaccination are available for the district.

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

General Administration

The day-to-day inspections of houses, shops and factories have been carried out through the year as usual. The following is a summary of the visits paid during the year ended the 31st December, 1961.

General Sanitation

Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	117
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	...	...	...	...	105
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	20
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	14
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	21
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	477
Atmospheric Pollution	..	...	...	...	...	Nil
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	8
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits to filthy & verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	43

Housing

Public Health Act: No. of houses inspected	17
Public Health Act: No. of visits paid	... 39
Housing Act: No. of houses inspected	... 10
Housing Act: No. of visits paid	... 44
Overcrowding: No. of houses inspected	... Nil
Overcrowding: No. of visits paid	... Nil
Improvement Grant Inspections	... 31
Miscellaneous	... 19

Infectious Diseases

Visits following notifications of Infectious Diseases	... 67
--	--------

Noise Nuisances

Visits following notification of nuisance	... 12
--	--------

Visits to food premises

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dairies and Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Restaurants	..	...	...	...	...	...	42
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Service of Notices

No. of Notices served during 1960 still outstanding 1st January, 1961	...	1
No. of Informal Notices (all types) served during 1961	... ..	34
No. of Informal Notices complied with..		35
No. of Statutory Notices served during 1961	..	Nil
No. of Statutory Notices complied with.		Nil

1. Water Supply

There is a piped water supply to the whole of the Urban District. The supply is provided by the Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Company and the Bucks. Water Board. The former serves the Old and the New Towns and the latter, Holtspur and District.

The water contains a high degree of temporary hardness, and therefore no problems from plumbo-solvency occur. An adequate supply has been maintained throughout the district during the year. The three water samples sent for Bacteriological Examination proved to be satisfactory.

There are now no wells supplying drinking water within the district.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

Nearly the whole of the district is connected to one of the two sewerage systems. The Old Town is sewered to a modified broad irrigation works at Hedgerley Lane and the New Town and Holtspur Areas are sewered to the disposal works off Riding Lane at Holtspur.

The majority of the cesspools remaining are for premises which are outlying and these are emptied free, within 48 hours of receiving notification.

It is apparent that both sewage works were not originally designed to handle the amount of sewage that is at present gravitating to them, and although many modifications have been made over the years to cope with the increased quantity, it is considered that some extensive alterations will have to be made in the future. The sewerage systems however, are adequate.

3. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The house-to-house collection of refuse has been maintained on a weekly basis throughout the year. Twice weekly collections are made to shop premises as required, and in these cases a small annual charge is made.

The refuse is taken to a private tip just outside the Beaconsfield Urban District and is being used as backfilling to a gravel pit. The paper salvage is sorted, baled and sold to one of the local paper mills. Metal is taken by a scrap merchant.

Twenty-one Informal Notices were served on private households requiring renewal of defective dustbins.

4. Housing.

The number of properties, shown below, controlled by the Council at the end of December 1961, was 736 as compared with 728 at December 1960.

<u>Housing Accommodation:</u>	<u>December 1960</u>	<u>December 1961</u>
Pre-war Council Houses & Flats..	224	224
Post-war Council houses & Flats.	464	472
Prefabricated Bungalows	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
	728	736
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

Since the war, the Council have made every effort to provide units of varied accommodation for all needs, as follows:-

4 Bedroom {Parlour} Type Houses	4
3 Bedroom {Parlour} Type Houses	20
3 Bedroom {Non-Parlour} Type Houses	220
2 Bedroom {Non-Parlour} Type Houses	133
Bungalows	15
Flats	<u>80</u>
	<u>472</u>

The following figures show the housing development in the district during the last eight years:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Private Development.</u> <u>No. of Housing Units.</u>		<u>Council Development</u> <u>No. of Housing Units.</u>		<u>Total</u>
1953	...	42	...	41	83
1954	...	49	...	51	100
1955	...	63	...	20	83
1956	...	75	...	24	99
1957	...	89	...	3	92
1958	...	124	...	55	179
1959	...	87	...	8	95
1960	...	136	...	8	144
1961	...	105	....	8	113
<hr/>					
Total Houses built in last 9 years:	770	...	218	...	988
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

Two small housing schemes are at present in progress, involving the construction of a total of 33 flats. Both schemes should be completed during the latter half of 1962.

5. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958
House Purchase and Housing Act 1959

Standard Improvement Grants.

Three Applications for Standard Grants were received, but two of these were withdrawn prior to being approved. The remaining one was completed and a Grant of £80. paid.

Discretionary Improvement Grants.

One Application for Discretionary Grant was received and approved, and a Grant of £234 paid.

6. Housing Act, 1957.

The following is a summary of day-to-day complaints dealt with during the course of the year:-

Repairs to chimney stacks	...	...	...	1
Repairs to roofs (dampness abated)...	...	...	...	2
Repairs to drains (including rainwater drains				3
Repairs to door and frame	...	...	...	1
Repairs to water closet	...	...	...	2
Repairs to windows and frames	...	...	...	2
Repairs to walls (dampness abated)...	...	...	...	1
Repairs to plaster	...	...	...	5

7. Moveable Dwellings.

Four applications for permission to operate caravan sites were received under the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act 1960. Two were determined and the necessary approvals and licences issued.

The owner of the remaining sites has appealed against the conditions imposed by the Planning Authority. The date when the appeal will be heard is not yet known.

8. Rodent Infestation and Destruction.

A summary of the number of rodent infestations dealt with during the year ended 31st December, 1961, is shown below:-

Number of premises inspected for rats & mice (after notification of infestation)	...	257
Number of premises inspected for rats & mice whilst attending to other matters (estimated)		220
Number of treatments (Private & business premises)		133

The estimated figure of 220 has mainly been made up of building inspections carried out when premises are being built, altered, extended or modernised.

9. Disinfestation.

One case of cockroach infestation was dealt with in a catering establishment.

SECTION VI

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Bucks County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority, sample milk produced in the district. These samples are sent for bacteriological examination, primarily for Tubercle Bacilli. The examination also, however, reveals the presence of Brucella organisms. When such organisms are isolated, the District Medical Officer of Health is informed.

One dairyman in the district produces and bottles his own T.T. milk, which is sold raw. He has agreed to carry out six monthly "Ring Tests" on the milk produced. The milk from cows giving positive results is sent to be pasteurised.

It is a great pleasure to record the co-operation which this Department has received, both from the dairyman, his Veterinary Surgeon and the Staff of the Veterinary Investigation Centre, Reading.

2. Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Routine inspections of the premises subject to the above Regulations have been maintained and where necessary, the owners have been asked to make alterations or additions.

3. Food Inspection.

The following foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

<u>Description.</u>		<u>CWT.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>		
			<u>QRS.</u>	<u>LB.</u>	<u>OZ.</u>
Home killed meat	...		3	3	0
Imported meat	...		2	13	0
Canned meat	...	1	1	15	14
Other foods	...			15	0

4. Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

There are now 29 shops selling ice-cream within the district, only pre-wrapped ice-cream being sold.

SECTION VII

1. Pet Animals Act, 1951.

There are no Pet Animal shops within the district.

2. Game Act, 1831.

Number of Game Licences issued:- 7.

3. Petroleum Regulations Act 1928 & 1936.

Number of Licences renewed:- 12.

A total of 12 inspections were made under the Regulations.

4. Rag, Flock & Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of premises registered:- 1.

F. SEYMOUR,
Medical Officer of Health.

P.J. BUNCE,
Public Health Inspector.

APPENDIX I

Public Swimming Bath (Bell House Hotel).

The owner of the above swimming bath decided to close it at the beginning of this year.

APPENDIX II

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 5 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	5	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect.7 is enforced by the Local Authority..	35	17	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sect.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	40	20	2	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Section 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c).	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel making, etc., cleaning and washing.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, Lace curtains & nets.	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	-	-	-	-	-

